THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) This Ministry has not conducted any such study.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Department of Space has informed that it is able to recruit only about 65% of the requirement of Scientists/Engineers during the last few years.

In order to mitigate the problem of acute shortage of quality human resource for Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), the Government has approved setting up of Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST) near Thiruvananthapuram as a centre of excellence in education offering under-graduate, post-graduate, doctoral and post-doctoral positions in Space Science, Space Technology and Space Applications with customized curriculum meeting high technology requirements of ISRO.

Central assistance for madarsa modernisation

2789. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government, while implementing the recommendations of the Fatimi Committee, has urged the State Governments to initiate for more proactive measures in seeking Central assistance under the schemes of madarsa modernisation and appointment of Urdu language teachers;

(b) if so, whether the States have responded on the above advice of the Centre;

(c) if so, whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested for any additional financial assistance for the same;

(d) if so, the details of financial sanctions made and funds disbursed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Recently, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal for financial assistance of Rs.243.27 lakhs for modernization of madarsas and a separate proposal for the appointment of 2874 number of Urdu language teachers. The proposal, being recent, can only be considered when the Grants-in-Aid Committee meets next. The proposal for Urdu teachers is under examination.

Illegal courses by IIPM

2790. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received several letters from Members of Parliament bringing to the notice the illegal courses offered by Indian Institute of Planning and Management (IIPM) for MBA/BBA, at exorbitant fees;